

HOUSE No. 144

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Marjorie C. Decker

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act to lift kids out of deep poverty.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: | DATE ADDED: |
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| <i>Marjorie C. Decker</i> | <i>25th Middlesex</i> | <i>1/10/2023</i> |
| <i>Mindy Domb</i> | <i>3rd Hampshire</i> | <i>1/13/2023</i> |
| <i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i> | <i>1st Hampshire</i> | <i>1/20/2023</i> |
| <i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i> | <i>7th Middlesex</i> | <i>1/20/2023</i> |
| <i>Kevin G. Honan</i> | <i>17th Suffolk</i> | <i>1/20/2023</i> |
| <i>Steven Owens</i> | <i>29th Middlesex</i> | <i>1/22/2023</i> |
| <i>Christopher Hendricks</i> | <i>11th Bristol</i> | <i>1/23/2023</i> |
| <i>Manny Cruz</i> | <i>7th Essex</i> | <i>1/23/2023</i> |
| <i>Christopher M. Markey</i> | <i>9th Bristol</i> | <i>1/24/2023</i> |
| <i>Michael D. Brady</i> | <i>Second Plymouth and Norfolk</i> | <i>1/24/2023</i> |
| <i>Patricia A. Duffy</i> | <i>5th Hampden</i> | <i>1/24/2023</i> |
| <i>Michelle M. DuBois</i> | <i>10th Plymouth</i> | <i>1/24/2023</i> |
| <i>Kenneth I. Gordon</i> | <i>21st Middlesex</i> | <i>1/24/2023</i> |
| <i>Tram T. Nguyen</i> | <i>18th Essex</i> | <i>1/24/2023</i> |
| <i>Susannah M. Whipps</i> | <i>2nd Franklin</i> | <i>1/24/2023</i> |
| <i>Brian W. Murray</i> | <i>10th Worcester</i> | <i>1/25/2023</i> |
| <i>Steven Ultrino</i> | <i>33rd Middlesex</i> | <i>1/25/2023</i> |
| <i>David Paul Linsky</i> | <i>5th Middlesex</i> | <i>1/25/2023</i> |

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| <i>Samantha Montaño</i> | <i>15th Suffolk</i> | <i>1/25/2023</i> |
| <i>Christine P. Barber</i> | <i>34th Middlesex</i> | <i>1/25/2023</i> |
| <i>Edward R. Philips</i> | <i>8th Norfolk</i> | <i>1/26/2023</i> |
| <i>James C. Arena-DeRosa</i> | <i>8th Middlesex</i> | <i>1/26/2023</i> |
| <i>Vanna Howard</i> | <i>17th Middlesex</i> | <i>1/26/2023</i> |
| <i>Sean Garballey</i> | <i>23rd Middlesex</i> | <i>1/26/2023</i> |
| <i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i> | <i>17th Worcester</i> | <i>1/27/2023</i> |
| <i>Jessica Ann Giannino</i> | <i>16th Suffolk</i> | <i>1/27/2023</i> |
| <i>David M. Rogers</i> | <i>24th Middlesex</i> | <i>1/27/2023</i> |
| <i>James K. Hawkins</i> | <i>2nd Bristol</i> | <i>1/27/2023</i> |
| <i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i> | <i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i> | <i>1/27/2023</i> |
| <i>Carmine Lawrence Gentile</i> | <i>13th Middlesex</i> | <i>1/27/2023</i> |
| <i>Michael J. Soter</i> | <i>8th Worcester</i> | <i>1/30/2023</i> |
| <i>Judith A. Garcia</i> | <i>11th Suffolk</i> | <i>1/30/2023</i> |
| <i>Gerard J. Cassidy</i> | <i>9th Plymouth</i> | <i>1/30/2023</i> |
| <i>Rob Consalvo</i> | <i>14th Suffolk</i> | <i>1/30/2023</i> |
| <i>Ryan M. Hamilton</i> | <i>15th Essex</i> | <i>1/30/2023</i> |
| <i>Christopher J. Worrell</i> | <i>5th Suffolk</i> | <i>1/31/2023</i> |
| <i>Jennifer Balinsky Armini</i> | <i>8th Essex</i> | <i>1/31/2023</i> |
| <i>Brian M. Ashe</i> | <i>2nd Hampden</i> | <i>1/31/2023</i> |
| <i>Thomas M. Stanley</i> | <i>9th Middlesex</i> | <i>2/1/2023</i> |
| <i>Michael J. Barrett</i> | <i>Third Middlesex</i> | <i>2/1/2023</i> |
| <i>William M. Straus</i> | <i>10th Bristol</i> | <i>2/1/2023</i> |
| <i>Erika Uyterhoeven</i> | <i>27th Middlesex</i> | <i>2/1/2023</i> |
| <i>Tackey Chan</i> | <i>2nd Norfolk</i> | <i>2/1/2023</i> |
| <i>Andres X. Vargas</i> | <i>3rd Essex</i> | <i>2/2/2023</i> |
| <i>Rady Mom</i> | <i>18th Middlesex</i> | <i>2/2/2023</i> |
| <i>Ruth B. Balsler</i> | <i>12th Middlesex</i> | <i>2/3/2023</i> |
| <i>Jon Santiago</i> | <i>9th Suffolk</i> | <i>2/6/2023</i> |
| <i>Adrian C. Madaro</i> | <i>1st Suffolk</i> | <i>2/6/2023</i> |
| <i>Mary S. Keefe</i> | <i>15th Worcester</i> | <i>2/6/2023</i> |
| <i>Patrick M. O'Connor</i> | <i>First Plymouth and Norfolk</i> | <i>2/7/2023</i> |
| <i>Carole A. Fiola</i> | <i>6th Bristol</i> | <i>2/7/2023</i> |
| <i>William C. Galvin</i> | <i>6th Norfolk</i> | <i>2/7/2023</i> |
| <i>Paul McMurtry</i> | <i>11th Norfolk</i> | <i>2/8/2023</i> |
| <i>Frank A. Moran</i> | <i>17th Essex</i> | <i>2/8/2023</i> |
| <i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i> | <i>2nd Berkshire</i> | <i>2/8/2023</i> |
| <i>Joan Meschino</i> | <i>3rd Plymouth</i> | <i>2/9/2023</i> |
| <i>Natalie M. Higgins</i> | <i>4th Worcester</i> | <i>2/9/2023</i> |

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| <i>James B. Eldridge</i> | <i>Middlesex and Worcester</i> | <i>2/9/2023</i> |
| <i>James J. O'Day</i> | <i>14th Worcester</i> | <i>2/9/2023</i> |
| <i>Dylan A. Fernandes</i> | <i>Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket</i> | <i>2/13/2023</i> |
| <i>Priscila S. Sousa</i> | <i>6th Middlesex</i> | <i>2/15/2023</i> |
| <i>Jacob R. Oliveira</i> | <i>Hampden, Hampshire and Worcester</i> | <i>2/17/2023</i> |
| <i>Jason M. Lewis</i> | <i>Fifth Middlesex</i> | <i>2/22/2023</i> |
| <i>Simon Cataldo</i> | <i>14th Middlesex</i> | <i>2/22/2023</i> |
| <i>Kate Lipper-Garabedian</i> | <i>32nd Middlesex</i> | <i>2/22/2023</i> |
| <i>Danillo A. Sena</i> | <i>37th Middlesex</i> | <i>2/23/2023</i> |
| <i>Christopher Richard Flanagan</i> | <i>1st Barnstable</i> | <i>2/23/2023</i> |
| <i>Natalie M. Blais</i> | <i>1st Franklin</i> | <i>2/27/2023</i> |
| <i>David Biele</i> | <i>4th Suffolk</i> | <i>2/27/2023</i> |
| <i>Kate Donaghue</i> | <i>19th Worcester</i> | <i>2/28/2023</i> |
| <i>Carlos González</i> | <i>10th Hampden</i> | <i>3/1/2023</i> |
| <i>Aaron L. Saunders</i> | <i>7th Hampden</i> | <i>3/2/2023</i> |
| <i>Michelle L. Ciccolo</i> | <i>15th Middlesex</i> | <i>3/2/2023</i> |
| <i>John J. Lawn, Jr.</i> | <i>10th Middlesex</i> | <i>3/2/2023</i> |
| <i>Rodney M. Elliott</i> | <i>16th Middlesex</i> | <i>3/4/2023</i> |
| <i>Paul R. Feeney</i> | <i>Bristol and Norfolk</i> | <i>3/5/2023</i> |
| <i>Daniel Cahill</i> | <i>10th Essex</i> | <i>3/6/2023</i> |
| <i>Rebecca L. Rausch</i> | <i>Norfolk, Worcester and Middlesex</i> | <i>3/7/2023</i> |
| <i>Brandy Fluker Oakley</i> | <i>12th Suffolk</i> | <i>3/9/2023</i> |
| <i>Margaret R. Scarsdale</i> | <i>1st Middlesex</i> | <i>3/13/2023</i> |

HOUSE No. 144

By Representative Decker of Cambridge, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 144) of Marjorie C. Decker and others relative to the payment standards for monthly benefits for parents with dependent children. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 199 OF 2021-2022.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court
(2023-2024)**

An Act to lift kids out of deep poverty.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 2 of chapter 118 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the fourth paragraph and inserting in place
3 thereof the following paragraph:--

4 Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the payment standards for
5 monthly benefits for the program not including the rental allowance shall be increased effective
6 July first of each year beginning with July 1, 2023 by 25 percent above the payment standard in
7 effect in the previous fiscal year until the payment standard for the household size equals 50
8 percent of the federal poverty level for the household size; provided further, that once the
9 payment standard for the household size equals 50 percent of the federal poverty level for the
10 household size, the payment standard shall be increased effective July first of each year in order

11 that the payment standard shall be no less than 50 percent of the poverty level for the household
12 size as determined by the federal Department of Health and Human Services; provided further,
13 that the need standard and the payment amounts shall be further increased by the amount of a
14 clothing allowance in the month for which it is paid and by the rental allowance for households
15 incurring a rent or mortgage expense and not residing in public or subsidized housing.

16 SECTION 2. Section 1 of chapter 117A of the General Laws is hereby amended by
17 inserting after the first paragraph the following new paragraph:-

18 Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the payment standards for
19 monthly benefits for the program shall be increased effective July first of each year beginning
20 with July 1, 2023 by 25 percent above the payment standard in effect in the previous fiscal year
21 until the payment standard for the household size equals 50 percent of the federal poverty level
22 for the household size; provided further, that once the payment standard for the household size
23 equals 50 percent of the federal poverty level for the household size, the payment standard shall
24 be increased effective July first of each year in order that the payment standard shall be no less
25 than 50 percent of the poverty level for the household size as determined by the federal
26 Department of Health and Human Services.